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PTO/SB/05 (03-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No.	F-303
First Inventor	Ralph;
Title	Distraction Instrument for use in Anterior Cervical Fixation Surgery
Express Mail Label No.	ER005068870US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

- ☒ Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)
 - ☒ Applicant claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.
 - ☒ Specification [Total Pages (preferred arrangement set forth below)
 - Descriptive title of the invention
 - Cross Reference to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
 - ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets - Oath or Declaration [Total Pages - ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)
 - ☒ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63 (d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)
 - ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
- ☐ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

- ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
- Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
 - ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
 - Specification Sequence Listing on:
 - ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
 - ☐ paper
 - ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

- ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
- ☒ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement ☒ Power of Attorney
(when there is an assignee)
- ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
- ☐ Preliminary Amendment
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)
- ☐ Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
- ☐ Other:

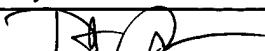
18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: 10 / 003,000
Prior application information: Examiner _____ Group Art Unit: _____

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Customer Number or Bar Code Label	<div>36402 (Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)</div>	or <input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below
Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Country	Telephone	Fax

Name (Print/Type)	Timothy J. Bortree	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	43,506
Signature		Date	12/1/2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

17302 U.S. PTO
10/725306



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**FEE TRANSMITTAL
for FY 2001**

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	12/1/2003
First Named Inventor	Ralph;
Examiner Name	
Group Art Unit	
Attorney Docket No.	F-303

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 385.00**METHOD OF PAYMENT**

- 1.
- ☒
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number	50-2615
Deposit Account Name	SpineCore

- ☒
- Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17

- ☒
- Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

- 2.
- ☐
- Payment Enclosed:**

☐ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other**FEE CALCULATION****1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
101 710	201 355	Utility filing fee	385.00
106 320	206 160	Design filing fee	
107 490	207 245	Plant filing fee	
108 710	208 355	Reissue filing fee	
114 150	214 75	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 385.00**2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES**

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
15	-20** =	X	0.00
2	-3** =	X	0.00
Multiple Dependent			

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
103 18	203 9	Claims in excess of 20
102 80	202 40	Independent claims in excess of 3
104 270	204 135	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109 80	209 40	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110 18	210 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$) 0.00

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above


FEE CALCULATION (continued)

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
105 130	205 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127 50	227 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139 130	139 130	Non-English specification	
147 2,520	147 2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
112 920*	112 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113 1,840*	113 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115 110	215 55	Extension for reply within first month	
116 390	216 195	Extension for reply within second month	
117 890	217 445	Extension for reply within third month	
118 1,390	218 695	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128 1,890	228 945	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119 310	219 155	Notice of Appeal	
120 310	220 155	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121 270	221 135	Request for oral hearing	
138 1,510	138 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140 110	240 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141 1,240	241 620	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142 1,240	242 620	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143 440	243 220	Design issue fee	
144 600	244 300	Plant issue fee	
122 130	122 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123 50	123 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
126 180	126 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581 40	581 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146 710	246 355	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149 710	249 355	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
179 710	279 355	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
169 900	169 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 0.00**SUBMITTED BY**

Name (Print/Type)	Timothy J. Bortree	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	43,506	Telephone	908-273-6461
Signature		Date	12/1/2003		

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8 AND 1.10

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on 12/1/2003
with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service
and is addressed to:


Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Patent Application
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Express Mail Label Number: ER005068870US

DOCUMENTS INCLUDED:

- ☒ Patent Application Transmittal (1 page)
- ☒ Fee Transmittal Form (1 page) (in duplicate)
- ☒ Specification and Claims (17 pages) (including 4 pages of claims)
- ☒ Informal Drawings (4 sheets)
- ☒ Oath(s) or Declaration(s) (2 pages)
- ☒ Power(s) of Attorney (1 pages)
- ☐ Assignment(s) (pages)
- ☐ Recordation Form Cover Sheet (1 page) (in duplicate)
- ☒ Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b) (1 page)
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
- ☒ Unrecorded Assignment (9 pages)
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Signed: _____


Timothy J. Bortree

Reg. No. 43,506

Date: 12/1/2003

DOCKET NUMBER: F-303

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)

Applicant/Patent Owner: James D. Ralph; Thomas N. Troxell

Application No./Patent No.: _____ Filed/Issue Date: 12/1/2003

Entitled: Distraction Instrument for use in Anterior Cervical Fixation Surgery

SpineCore, Inc., a Delaware corporation

(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. ☒ the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
2. ☐ an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.
The extent (by, percentage) of its ownership interest is _____ %

in the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

- A. ☐ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

- B. ☒ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: Inventors To: SpineCore, LLC
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 012355, Frame 0630, or for which a copy thereof is attached.
2. From: SpineCore, LLC To: Third Millennium Engineering, LLC
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 012850, Frame 0992, or for which a copy thereof is attached.
3. From: Third Millennium Engineering, LLC To: SpineCore, Inc.
The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel attached, Frame attached, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

☐ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

- ☒ Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

[NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., the original assignment document or a true copy of the original document) must be submitted to Assignment Division in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, if the assignment is to be recorded in the records of the USPTO. See MPEP 302.08]

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

12/1/2003

Date

Joseph P. Errico,

Typed or printed name

Signature

CEO, SpineCore, Inc.

Title